

***Amendments to the Claims***

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A method Method of soldering an item to be soldered in a transit oven ~~with comprising:~~

heating [[of]] the item to be soldered in a preheating zone ~~by means of using~~ a preheating device to a first temperature ~~which lies~~ below the melting temperature of a solder ~~which is~~ in contact with the item to be ~~soldered~~, soldered:

subjecting the item to be soldered in a soldering zone with a first volume flow of a fluid with a second ~~first~~ temperature higher than a melting temperature of the solder generated by a convection heater; heating means, and

after subjecting the item to be soldered with the first volume flow, subjecting the item to be soldered in [[a]] the soldering zone with a second volume flow of a fluid with [[a]] the second temperature, ~~temperature which is equal to or different from the first temperature, which is generated by the convection heating means~~, and

cooling [[of]] the item to be soldered below the melting temperature,  
wherein the first volume flow is larger than the second volume flow, and  
wherein the convection heater heats the item to be soldered from both sides  
with the first and second volume flows at the second temperature.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The Method method according to Claim 1, wherein the soldering zone comprises a first section for providing the first volume flow and a second section for providing the second volume flow flow.

4. (currently amended) The Method method according to Claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and second volume flows is statically reduced.

5. (currently amended) The Method method according to Claim 3, wherein part of the first volume flow is branched off before entering the soldering zone in order to produce the second volume flow from the remaining portion proportion of the first volume flow.

6. (currently amended) The Method method according to Claim 5, wherein the branched off part of the first volume flow is used for preheating a further item to be soldered.

7. (currently amended) The Method method according to Claim 1, which furthermore comprises further comprising:

selection of setting a maximum permissible temperature of the item to be soldered soldered; and

adjustment of adjusting the second temperature of the second volume flow to substantially the selected set maximum permissible temperature temperature.

8. (currently amended) The Method method according to Claim 7, wherein the second temperature is set to the maximum permissible temperature.

9. (currently amended) The Method method according to Claim 3, wherein at least a first convection heating unit of the convection heating means heater is provided in a

first soldering zone and at least a second convection heating unit of the convection heating means heater is provided in a second soldering zone.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (currently amended) The Method method according to Claim 1, wherein the first volume flow is reduced based on a ~~detection signal obtained from~~ measurement of the item to be soldered.

12-20 (Cancelled)